

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Office Action has been carefully considered. Claims 18-20, 24, and 26 are withdrawn. Claims 22-23 and 25 are currently amended. Claims 14-29 are pending. In the Office Action, five species were identified:

1. Polymers of vinyl acetate (Claim 19);
2. Polymers of crotonic acid (Claim 20);
3. Copolymers of vinyl acetate and crotonic acid (Claim 14);
4. Poly-vinyl acetate-co-vinyl alcohol (Claim 18); and
5. Mixtures of derivative polymers of vinyl acetate and crotonic acid (Claims 21-22).

Claims 14-17 were identified as generic.

### ***Summary of Examiner Interview***

Applicant thanks Examiner Arnold for the courtesy extended to Applicant's representative during a telephone interview on April 1, 2010. During the interview, it was discussed how best to address the generic nature of Claim 14.

### ***Election***

Applicant elects species 5, including Claims 21-22, without traverse. Additionally, Claim 22 is currently amended to incorporate the subject matter of withdrawn Claim 18, from which Claim 22 previously depended.

Claims 18-20 (corresponding to species 1-2 and 4) and Claims 24 and 26 (which depend from Claim 18) have been withdrawn.

Claim 14 (from which Claims 21-22 indirectly depend) was indicated to be generic. Therefore, Claim 14 remains presented for examination.

### ***Conclusion***

For at least the reasons above, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are allowable and request that the Examiner permit these claims to proceed to issuance.

Although additional arguments are believed to exist for distinguishing the cited documents, the arguments presented are believed sufficient to address the Examiner's rejections.

Likewise, failure of the Applicants to respond to a position taken by the Examiner is not an indication of acceptance or acquiescence of the Examiner's position. Instead, it is believed that the Examiner's positions are rendered moot by the foregoing arguments, and it is therefore not believed necessary to respond to every position taken by the Examiner with which Applicants do not agree.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below if there are any remaining questions regarding this application.

We believe the appropriate fees accompany this transmission. If, however, insufficient fee payment or fee overpayment occurs, the amount may be withdrawn or deposited from/to AXIOS Law's deposit account. The deposit account number is 50-4051.

Respectfully submitted,  
AXIOS LAW

Date: April 1, 2010

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